

## Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

July 1, 2003

## BY FACSIMILE

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Re: Univision Communications, Inc. / Hispanic Broadcasting Corp.

Application for Consent to Transfer of Control, MB Docket No. 02-235

## Dear Counsel:

On July 23, 2002, Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation (Hispanic Broadcasting) and Univision Communications, Inc. (Univision) filed applications seeking Commission consent to the transfer of control of Hispanic Broadcasting's licenses and authorizations to Univision. On January 24, 2003, we stopped the 180-day clock on consideration of the license transfer applications related to the proposed merger between Univision and Hispanic Broadcasting Corp. We gave two reasons for our action.

First, we noted that we had reached an agreement with you whereby the Commission is permitted to examine documents that you submit to the Department of Justice as part of their antitrust review of your merger in order to determine whether any of the documents are relevant to the issues under our consideration. At that time, you had not yet informed us that you had supplied the Department with all of the documents they requested and we inferred that the Department's review was not yet complete. Second, we stated that this transaction presents novel issues, and thus consultations between the Commission and the Department of Justice, as permitted under our rules, would appear to be particularly useful.

On March 26, 2003, the Department of Justice filed a civil complaint alleging that the acquisition of Hispanic Broadcasting by Univision would violate the antitrust laws. Before the Department filed that complaint, it reached an agreement with you on the terms of a proposed consent decree, which was filed contemporaneously with the civil complaint. On May 7, 2003, the Department

filed a competitive impact statement in the antitrust case, which was published in the Federal Register on May 21, 2003 (68 Fed. Reg. 27851).

We have now had an opportunity to fully review the documents you submitted to the Department of Justice and to consult with the Department. We are therefore restarting the informal 180-day clock. This action should not be taken as any indication of when the Commission will issue its decision in this case. As we stated in the letter stopping the clock, the clock carries with it no procedural or substantive rights or obligations but merely represents an informal benchmark by which to evaluate the Commission's progress. Although the Commission seeks to meet the 180-day benchmark, its statutory obligation to determine whether an assignment or transfer serves the public interest takes precedence over the informal timeline.

Sincerely,

W. Kenneth Ferree Chief, Media Bureau

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